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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/651,857	MULLER, JOCHEN	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Tuan T. Nguyen	2824	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--  
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/29/03; 1/12/04</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                                       | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Attachment A: Search History</u> .     |

*Van Thu Nguyen*  
**VAN THU NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 1/12/04 and 8/29/03 were filed after the mailing date of the present application. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-11 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fail to teach a method for driving one-time operable isolation elements of (a) semiconductor chip(s), which comprises the steps of storing an item of isolation information in the semiconductor chip(s) for each of the isolation elements to be operated on; and beginning a one-time operation on a respective isolation element upon reception the item of isolation information for the respective isolation element as recited in claims 1, 2-11.

The prior art of record further fail to disclose a circuit configuration for operating on an isolation element, in combination with other cited limitations, comprising buffer memory connected the interface and receiving an item of isolation information through the interface, the item of isolation information relating to the isolation element to be operated on; and an isolation element driver connected to said buffer memory and to said first control line, said isolation

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element driver reading the item of isolation information from said buffer memory and effecting a one-time operation on the isolation element through said first control line upon a presence of the item of isolation information for the isolation element being stored in said buffer memory as recited in claim 11.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Conclusion*

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Gelsomini et al. (US 6,781,887) disclose an anti-fuse structure and method of writing and reading in integrated circuit.
- b. Hamaguchi et al. (US 6,621,734) disclose a nonvolatile semiconductor memory device and electronic information apparatus having redundant substitution information method.
- c. Ito (US 5,414,659) discloses a semiconductor memory device having address transition detector quickly enabling redundancy decoder.

Mori (US 5,299,160) discloses a semiconductor memory device capable of repairing defective bits in cluding input/output switching circuit.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1880.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Elms can be reached on (571) 272-1869. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 22, 2005



Tuan T. Nguyen  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2824



**VANTHU NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**